

## State of West Virginia Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety Joe Manchin III, Governor

Sterling Lewis, Jr. State Fire Marshal

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: West Virginia Fire Safety Resource e-Guide available online

More people die in fires in West Virginia than in almost any other state. It doesn't have to happen.

To address this issue, the West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office developed the West Virginia Fire Safety Resource e-Guide. This project has been made possible by a Community-Based Initiatives (CBI) grant awarded by the West Virginia DHHR Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion.

The *e-Guide* has been developed as a training tool to provide resources and guidelines to keep West Virginians safe and to create awareness around the need for fire safety and related emergency preparedness. The *e-Guide* addresses the specific needs of people with disabilities and the elderly.

In collaboration with the WV State Fire Marshal's Office, the e-Guide is available on the Mountain State Centers for Independent Living Centers Website [www.mtstcil.org/eguide] as part of their on-line skills trainings for people with disabilities.

The *e-Guide* has been developed to be maximally accessible for use by all people with disabilities by Nancy Massey of www.masseynet.com.

The *e-Guide* is dedicated to Joseph J. Szilvasi, one of nine people who died from smoke inhalation while attempting to escape the Emmons Apartment fire in Huntington, WV on January 13, 2007.

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## This release submitted by:

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